

## POST SHORTS

### Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Nov. 3, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

### Time to fall back



Don't forget to turn clocks back one hour on Oct. 31. Standard time resumes when daylight savings time ends at 2 a.m. traditionally on the last Sunday in October.

### RDECOM change of command today

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command change of command ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m., at Fashaw Field, Oct. 28.

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg will relinquish command of RDECOM to Brig. Gen. Roger A. Nadeu.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will take place in the APG Athletic Center, building 3300.

### RAB meeting scheduled tonight

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., Oct. 28, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road.

The topic will include an update on the Carroll Island and Graces Quarters study areas.

Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the information line at 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

### Trick or treating on APG

Halloween and the traditional "trick or treat" activities will be celebrated at Aberdeen Proving Ground on Oct. 31.

Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

"Trick or treat" activities are specifically limited to 6 to 8 p.m.

Personnel driving in the housing areas during the "trick or treat" period are cautioned to exercise extreme care, and to be especially watchful for young children who may not be readily visible or attentive to moving vehicles. It is strongly recommended that children wear

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Toastmasters



The Latino dancers from Aberdeen High School and guests dance the Merengue during the APG Garrison Annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration held Oct. 14 at the Edgewood Area Recreation Center.

## APG celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

Story and photos by  
**Yvonne Johnson**  
APG News

Education and economics, the two most important issues affecting the future of the Hispanic population, were the focus of comments by guest speaker J. Fernando Barraeta, president and CEO of the Hispanic College Fund, during the Aberdeen Proving Ground Annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration held at the Edgewood Area Recreation Center Oct. 14.

The APG Garrison sponsored the event, hosted by RDECOM and the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine.

Capt. Tanya Garcia, CHPPM headquarters company commander, emceed the program, welcoming the program's guests who included

APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, Col. John T. Wright and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby.

Lt. Col. Mario Amezcua, Catholic priest, offered the opening prayer and benediction.

Barraeta said that with a buying power of \$680 billion, Hispanics already affect the growth of the economy.

"We want to continue to excel to create wealth in the community," Barraeta said. "Wealth buys influence and power. Without these, there is no progress."

The Hispanic College Fund recognizes the need to promote higher education initiatives, particularly in the sciences and engineering to promote future advancement, he

said.

"To date we have awarded \$3.5 million in scholarships," Barraeta said. "That sounds like a lot but it's a drop in the bucket."

He said the goal is to create Hispanic professionals who can "act on behalf of the community."

"We try to be the bridge between organizations that need Hispanics and Hispanics who are highly qualified, he said."

He said that because the Hispanic population will replace 70 million baby boomers, it is critical to maintain the knowledge base we need," Barraeta said.

"Start early," he advised, adding that organizations like his will do all they can to help with scholarships and intern-

ships.

"When the baby boomers retire, we can retain that progress," he said.

Wright said the program's theme, "Hispanic Americans, making a difference in our communities and our nation," referred to the significant contributions made by Hispanic Americans.

"Hispanic Americans have served and made many sacrifices in the American military," Wright said adding that people of Hispanic origin make up the nation's largest race or ethnic minority, which is projected to be 102.6 million by the year 2050, which will constitute 24 percent of the nation's total population.

The program included Hispanic culture displays and a meal of enchiladas, burritos,

quesadillas, Spanish rice, refried beans, salsa and chips from the La Tolteca restaurant in Bel Air. Hispanic Employment Program Committee members also prepared guava paste appetizers.

The Latino Dancers, a group of students from Aberdeen High School performed two dance numbers then taught the Tango and Merengue dances to members of the audience. Spanish teacher Diann Stromer led the dancers, some of whom are in the Hispanic Honor Society.

Several attendees agreed the event was both memorable and informative.

"The dancing really added to the program," said Alicia Baldauf, an engineer with the U.S. Army Evaluation Center

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## APG observes Disability Awareness Month



Photo by SEAN KIEF  
Kristen Cox, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Disabilities, speaks about issues impacting employees with disabilities at the Disability Awareness Month Observance held Oct. 6 at the Top of the Bay.

**Meghan Bowen**  
APG News

The 2004 Disability Awareness Month Observance, held Oct. 6, honored partnerships between individuals with and without disabilities on Aberdeen Proving Ground during a luncheon at the Top of the Bay.

The theme "You're Hired! Success Knows No Limitations," emphasized economic and employment

opportunities for people with disabilities.

"It's all about thanking the APG community for its dedicated efficiency all year long," said Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, complementing their clear understanding of the issues of the organizations as well as those of individuals with disabili-

ties.

Luncheon attendees represented a mixed population of the APG workforce. Organizers provided sign language interpreters who translated words and lyrics to sign language.

Chaplain (Maj.) Jeffrey Watters, APG Garrison, gave the invocation and offered a prayer of thanks for the program and community.

"Thank you for this program to highlight disabilities," Watters said, "And thank you for my friend Emily Emrick who, though sightless, sees joy in every moment."

After guests finished lunch, Doesburg talked about the enhanced role that the disabilities program has played since the conflict in Iraq started.

"We have thousands of young soldiers who will be joining our ranks. We have to take advantage of everything that's available to us," Doesburg said. "I love all of the bright and new ideas out there. Most importantly when they help our young Soldiers."

Doesburg spoke about the importance of equality for everyone working at APG.

"We need to promote empowerment for everyone," Doesburg said.

Doesburg introduced guest speaker, Kristen Cox, who "is in the business of empowerment, and is dedicated to helping people with disabilities achieve their goals."

Cox, was named Secretary

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## Shirley Caesar to headline evening of Gospel Nov. 5



Shirley Caesar

**Yvonne Johnson**  
APG News

The First Lady of Gospel, evangelist Shirley Caesar returns to Aberdeen Proving Ground for an Evening of Worship, Nov. 5 at the Post Theater. Tickets cost \$30 in advance, \$35 the day of the concert. Doors open 6 p.m., and the show starts 7 p.m.

Earlene Allen, Morale, Welfare and Recreation senior programmer, asks that organizations or individuals consider purchasing tickets for service members who would like to attend.

"This will be an uplifting and encouraging event for troops who may soon be headed to Iraq," Allen said.

Those interested in assisting a service member may contact Allen at 410-278-3854.

For more information, contact MWR registration in building 3326 at 410-278-4011 or visit MWR Web site at www.apg mwr.army.mil.

Guest performers for the Nov. 5 concert featuring Shirley Caesar include gospel recording artist Pamela

Rankins of GIA Music.

Local performers include Pastor Michael German and the Holy Temple Urban Connectional Church Praise Team; soloist Cheri M. Dupree; and Helping Hands Ministries Voices of Inspiration.

Reverend Kenneth Stewart, St. James A.M.E. Church in Havre de Grace and Minister Horace Tittle, of gospel radio station WJSS 1330 AM, will co-host the program.

### Shirley Caesar

In her 38-year career, Caesar has recorded more than forty albums, participated in 16 compilations and three gospel musicals. Her credits include 11 Grammy Awards, 13 Stellar Awards, 18 Doves Awards, an Essence Award, a McDonald's Golden Circle Lifetime Achievement Award, and the NAACP Achievement Award, as well as an induction into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame.

Her live appearances include the Disney World Night of Joy, the Gospel According to VH-1, a White House performance for President George Bush, and a speech on the Evolution of Gospel Music to the U.S. Treasury Department.

The pastor of Mount Calvary Word of Faith Holy Church in Raleigh, N. C., Caesar is married to Bishop Harold Williams, her husband of twenty years.

Her latest musical effort, SHIRLEY CAESAR & FRIENDS, is a collection of

See CAESAR, page 5



# ECBC doctor receives Meritorious Civilian Service Award

*ECBC*  
Dr. James A. Baker, associate director of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) received the prestigious Meritorious Civilian Service Award during a Sept. 13 ceremony at the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command headquarters. The award is the second-highest Department of the

Army honorary award, and is given in recognition of outstanding performance and significant contributions to the Department of Defense. Baker has served as associate director of ECBC since 2000, and during that time has helped lead the organization through a period of extensive growth. Over the past five years, ECBC has increased staff by

20 percent, while nearly quadrupling revenue. The award cited Baker's superior leadership and extensive scientific background as being critical to ECBC during this time of great change. He was also lauded for his dramatic impact on the center's support to the warfighters and other government agencies this year. Maj. Gen. John C.

Doesburg, commander of RDECOM, presented the award to Baker. Doesburg said that, "Dr. Baker's tireless efforts to promote the mission of ECBC is definitely something to honor." "I recognize the importance and significance of this tremendous honor, Baker said and I am so deeply grateful to not only the Department of the Army for this award, but also

to my friends and colleagues at ECBC, for they have played a critical role in our impressive record of success." ECBC is the DoD's principal research and development center for chemical and biological defense technology, engineering and services. ECBC has achieved major technological advances for national defense, civilian needs and industrial competi-

tiveness, with a long and distinguished history of providing the Armed Forces with quality systems and outstanding customer service. ECBC is located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. For more information about the ECBC, visit the Web site at <http://www.ecbc.army.mil> < <http://edgewood.sbccom.army.mil>.

# Hundreds attend 16th annual Harford County Job Fair

*Story and photo by Yvonne Johnson*  
*APG News*  
Aberdeen Proving Ground, in a continuing partnership with Harford County, co-hosted the 16th annual Job Fair at the Richlin Ballroom in Edgewood Sept. 30.

Organizers said the event, which featured 57 private sector companies and government agencies may have been the biggest one yet. "There's been a steady flow of customers ever since the doors opened," said Marilyn Howard, Army Community Service Readiness Employment Manager. Howard said attendees included several former enrollees in the ACS resume writing course. "They all came prepared and dressed for success," Howard said. Attendees were able to talk to representatives about job opportunities and vacancies ranging from accounting, engineering, law enforcement, customer service, manufacturing, construction, food service, management, healthcare, education, and other fields. Would-be employers and employees said the event held opportunities for all involved. Juliette Bates, human resources assistant, greeted potential employees who gathered at the APG Non-appropriated Fund table, which was piled high with vacancy announcement. "These list current and future openings, Bates said, as she passed out complimentary

pencils, cup warmers and lollipops to applicants. "But the majority are vacancies." As she explained job openings, Evonne Gibson, human resources recruiter with the APG Federal Credit Union, said openings included those for teller, loan officer, systems administrator and member services representative. "The credit union always participates in the job fairs," said Nina Spencer, APGFCU assistant vice president of branch services. "There is always high attendance and lots of quality applicant," Spencer said. At the SRS Technologies table, Randy Scrocca, an operations research analyst, and Joe Brooks, outreach representative, said that the Bel Air-based company was in search of personnel with "high tech backgrounds in mathematics and computer science." "We design high level modeling and simulation for weapons systems analysis," Scrocca said, noting that the company's personnel work closely with the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center and Materiel Systems Analysis Activity on APG. Representatives from another organization also aligned with the installation, Battelle Eastern Science and Technology Center said openings existed for engineering, infrastructure protection, and HVAC specialists. Pete Bucha, engineering specialist, and former AMSAA deputy, said the com-

pany consists of about 25 percent former military personnel. "It's a good company and a very good environment," Bucha said. "We have a broad range of jobs that include microbiologists and chem-bio specialists," added Heather Gatta, human resources administrator. She added that the fair's attendance was "impressive." "I have a stack of resumes from quality applicants," Gatta said. "This is a very successful event attendance wise." Claudia Booker, a soldier's mother looking to relocate to the APG area agreed. She said her son, now serving in Iraq, left APG in June. "I stopped by to drop off some resumes," Booker said, adding that she was seeking an administrative position. "I'm hoping something good comes out of today because I'm ready to move here," she said. In search of a high tech job, Cithparan Nadarajah, said he was looking for a quality assurance position. "I have a job now but I'm looking to move on," Nadarajah said. "I talked to a lot of companies today. There were some good opportunities." Participating organizations in the 16th Annual Harford County Job Fair included Absolute Quality; Advance Auto Parts; American Infrastructure; APG Federal Credit Union; Non-appropriated Fund Civilian Personnel

Office; Baltimore County Bureau of Corrections; Booz-Allen Hamilton; CACI International; Care Source LLC; Caring Hands, Inc.; Charles River Laboratories; Chesapeake Spice Company, LLC; Comcast Cable Communications; County Banking and Trust Company; Custom Direct; Doherty Employment Group @ Rite Aid Distribution Center; DSC Logistics; EAI Corporation; Enterprise Rent-A-Car; First Command Financial Planning; Franklin Square Hospital Center; Freedom Federal Credit Union; Gemcraft Homes, Inc.; Harford Bank; Harford Community College; Harford County Government; Harford County Public Library; Harford County Public Schools; Harford County Sheriff's Office; IKEA Wholesale; Independent Can Company; Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center; Kelly Services, Inc.; Log.Sec Corporation; Mariner Health of Forest Hill; Maryland Air National Guard; Monumental Life Insurance; Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems; PHH Arval; Quest Diagnostics, Inc.; Ropewalk Tavern; SafeNet, Inc.; SoBran, Inc.; Solectron; SRS Technologies; State Emissions Testing Stations and BestStaff Services, Inc.; TechOps, Inc.; The Arc; TRI-S, Inc.; TriStar Management; University Physicians, Inc.; Upper Chesapeake Health; Vinnell Corporation; and Worthington Armstrong Venture (WAVE).



*Evonne Gibson, a human resources recruiter with the Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union, left, reviews a job description with Claudia Booker of Edgewood during the 16th Annual Harford County Job Fair at the Richlin Ballroom Sept. 30.*

## CFC leaps ahead

**Robert Solyan**  
*CFC Chairperson*

To date, the Aberdeen Proving Ground Combined Federal Campaign has collected \$85,822.25, approximately 26.4 percent of the installation's \$325,000 goal. The Garrison commander's office, Adjutant's office, Staff Judge Advocate's office, U.S. Army Environmental Center, and the Army Contracting Agency have joined the ranks of activities that have exceeded 100 percent of their goals, bringing the total to 10. They are to be congratulated for a job well done in keeping their pledge cards coming. The next drawing for the large and small "Fort McHenry" prints by Chris White will be held on Nov. 1. To be eligible for the drawing, pledge cards must be submitted by noon, Oct. 28. Remember to include a name, activity, and phone number on the back of the pledge card tear strip. Paper copies of the guide and pledge cards are available from organization key workers or at the APG CFC office. The 2004 Contributor's Guide for national/international organizations can be found on Web site <http://www.cfccmd.org>. For more information, call Robert Solyan, Lisa Mack, or Betty Scott at 410-278-0001/0002/0003, or visit the CFC office in building 120, room 114.

## Disability

*From front page*

of the Maryland Department of Disabilities on July 1. She previously served as the director of the Governors office for individuals with disabilities, which prepared her with an in-depth understanding of the issues impacting Marylanders with disabilities. "She has a working knowledge not just at the state level, but the federal too," Doesburg said, in reference to her

Presidential appointment to work as a principal adviser to the Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Service Administration on program and policy matters, which promoted the employment and independence of individuals with disabilities. Cox, who is also blind, worked with the National Federation of the Blind, where she coordinated the organization's legislative agenda, and defended the rights of the blind on a variety of fronts.

"It's a real honor to be here today," Cox said. She said that, according to the 2000 census, 18 percent of Marylander's have a disability. Cox also shared how her own physical blindness would have affected her job opportunities if she had been born in an earlier time. "If I'd been born in the 1930's, my duties would have been restricted to making baskets," Cox said. Cox questioned what had changed since then.

"Was it the disability that changed or our view of disabilities that changed?" Cox said. "Disability is simply a characteristic. It does not define a person between what they can and can't do," Cox said. Cox informed attendees that people with disabilities are being represented in the local government. "Our department is dedicated to ensuring that people achieve their goals and dreams," Cox said. Cox left the guests with a final thought. "Challenge your own assumptions about disability today," Cox said. After Cox spoke, guests were serenaded by a choir from the 'Meaningful Day' program with the ARC Northern Chesapeake Region, which sang a number of songs and encouraged audience participation during the song, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game."

"We sing and have fun and play our rhythm instruments," said Katie Smith, choir director, Union Chapel United Methodist Church, commenting on the group's 12 performers who had a range of "severe" disabilities. "Once they learn a song it empowers them. Then they can move on and do something else too," Smith said. Smith commented on the program's content. "I think they were right on target. It doesn't matter what level of your disability there's

always something you can do," Smith said. Numerous APG organizations have been dedicated to the employment and support of individuals with disabilities, and there are more than 850 workers with disabilities employed in many areas of the APG workforce, according to the luncheon program. Many APG organizations have received honorary awards for their accomplishments in hiring individuals with disabilities, according to the program, which cited the Directorate of Information Management as the recipient of the 2004 Public Employer of the Year Award from the Harford County Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.

# APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

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## LEAVE DONATION

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Employees leaving the program should call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail [rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil), to complete a termination form.

### Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)	Melanie A. Hoffman (parasinusitis, fibromyalgia condition)
Sarah Blevins	Richard Hoffman
Michael Cain	Janice Johnson (diabetic neuropathy)
Iris Campbell (chemotherapy)	Anita Koller
Barbara Crossley	Beverly King (caring for husband)
Cathryn Cruz (cancer)	Danny Kopp (lung cancer)
Victoria Cwiernie (lilme disease)	Jin Kwon
Jessica Dang	William B. McLean (kidney failure)
Thomas Davies	Melissa Mullan
Carl Davis	Donna Pierce
Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo)	Tess Ramos (total hip replacement)
Natalie G. Dennison	Cheryl L. Roark
Geraldine Eaton	Matthew Ryan
David Fletcher	Leigh Sanders
John Furmankiewicz	Barbara Seker
Renee Gaffney	Marguerite Soper
Charles Gambrill	Alison Tichenor
Cynthia Hairston (Surgery)	Linda Tignor
Cynthia Henry (bronchitis with complications)	Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)



# Post Shorts

reflective markings on their costumes or carry a flashlight.

The cooperation of all concerned is being solicited to ensure a safe and happy Halloween at APG.

For more information, call Linda Holloway, 410-306-4520.

## Temporary closure of EA Dental Clinic

On Nov. 1, the Edgewood Area Dental Clinic will close six to seven months for renovation. All Edgewood Area patients must report to the Aberdeen Area Dental Clinic.

The last day for sick call is Oct. 29. Sick call at the Aberdeen Area Clinic is 7 to 8 a.m., Monday through Friday. Hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Fridays. Patients with early morning appointments should allow extra travel time.

A shuttle bus will be provided for AIT students. The bus will pick up students at the EA Dental Clinic every hour from 6 a.m. until the last pick up at 2 p.m.

For more information or to make an appointment, call the Dental Clinic at 410-278-1795/1796.

## Native American Program Nov. 9

Celebrate the spirit of Native Americans at the annual Native American Program, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center on Nov. 9. This year's theme is "Four Directions, One Voice." The guest speaker will be Ron Warren, an associate professor in theory and composition at Columbia Union College and award winning composer/arranger on keyboard and Native American flutes. Authentic food samples, vendors and displays will be available. There is no cost to attend this event.

Transportation will be provided from the Edgewood Conference Center, building E-4810. The bus will depart the Edgewood Area at 10:40 a.m.; after the program the bus will depart the Aberdeen Area at 12:40 p.m.

## Thrift Shop to disburse funds

The APG Thrift Shop will accept requests for donations from schools, service organizations and military units through Oct. 31.

The request should include the name of the organization, point of contact, address, telephone number, amount requested and specific details on what the funds will be used for. In the past donations have been granted to area schools, Boy Scouts, Army Community Service and veterans organizations.

Mail or drop off requests to the APG Thrift Store, building 2458, APG, MD 21005-5001.

For more information, call the store during operating hours: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the first Saturday of the month. Consignments are only taken 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday.

## MCSC begins annual pie sale

The Military and Civilian Spouses' Club has begun its annual apple pie sale for a \$6 donation.

To place a pie order or to volunteer, call Holly Ratliff at 410-273-6706.

## Army seeking warrant officer candidates

The U.S. Army is looking for highly motivated Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open to qualified applicants in all 45 specialties. Applicants with less than 12 years of active federal service are encouraged to apply.

For more information and all forms/documents required, visit [www.usarec.army.mil/](http://www.usarec.army.mil/)

warrant, or call DSN 536-0 3 2 8 / 0 4 6 6 / 0 2 7 1 / 1860/0458/0484 or commercial 502-626-1860.

## Emmett Paige scholarships available

The Gen. Emmett Paige Scholarship provides funding to veterans, military personnel, and their family members who are majoring in specified fields in college for \$2,000.

This program is open to veterans and persons on active duty in the uniformed military services and to their spouses or family members who are currently enrolled full-time in an accredited four-year degree-granting institution in the United States. Veterans entering college as freshmen may apply. Spouses or family members must be sophomores or juniors.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, be of good moral character, have demonstrated academic excellence, be motivated to complete a college education, and be working toward a degree in engineering (aerospace, chemical, computer, or electrical), mathematics, physics, or computer science with a GPA of 3.4 or higher.

For more information, see <http://www.military.com/Education/ScholarShip/Profile/1,14220,0546,00.html>.

## PWOC holds Bible Study Group

The Monday night Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible Study Group will hold its Fall Kickoff 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 1 at the Post Chapel. A new study, "I believe in God," by Beth Moore will be featured. Child care is available.

For more information, call Cindy Sepulveda at 410-273-1814.

## Johns Hopkins USFHP open forum

An open forum will be offered 1 to 2 p.m. and 2 to 3 p.m., Nov. 10, in the NCO Room at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Recreation Center, building 3326, on the corner of Raritan and Erie streets. Representatives from Johns Hopkins will provide materials and answer questions about the USFHP, a TRICARE

Prime option.

The forum is open to all DEERS-eligible family members of active duty and retired uniformed services members, retirees of all ages, family members of Reserve/National Guard on active duty for 31 days or more, non-remarried spouses and unmarried children of deceased service members, Coast Guard family members, NOAA retirees and their family members, as well as eligible family members of deceased NOAA members. No pre-registration is required.

For information, call 1-800-80-USFHP (7347), or Ed Cramer, USFHP at Johns Hopkins, 443-287-2529 or e-mail [ecramer3@jhmi.edu](mailto:ecramer3@jhmi.edu), or visit [www.hopkinsmedicine.org/usfhp](http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/usfhp).

## APG Blood Drive

APG Garrison is hosting an Armed Services Blood Program blood drive at the Aberdeen Area Post Chapel on Nov. 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The goal for this blood drive is 75 good units. The need is greater than ever.

For more information, call Spc. James Hyde at 410-278-4333 or Staff Sgt. Brian Adams at 410-278-3000, or Staff Sgt. Beverly Williams, Chapel Admin 410-278-433 or 4593.

## Annual Retiree Appreciation Day

Aberdeen Proving Ground will hold its annual Retiree Appreciation Day 8 to 11:45 a.m., Nov. 13, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. Representatives from area agencies to include, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, Commissary, Post Exchange, Community and Family Activities and the Veterans Administration will be on hand.

The National Association for Uniformed Services will provide a guest speaker. Everyone is welcomed to lunch in the dining facility, building 4503.

For more information, call retirees Col. Charles M. Shadle, APG Retiree Council, 410-663-9263 or Command Sgt. Maj. Barry Decker, APG Retiree Council, 410-306-1153.





# DoD Announces on-Line Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot

DoD

The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) has made available an official On-line Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (OFWAB). The OFWAB like the paper version has been prescribed by FVAP to serve as an emergency ballot for those overseas citizens covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) who do not receive their requested state absentee ballot. The OFWAB is an alternative to the multipart paper version. Generally, a citizen can only use the FWAB under three, very specific conditions. To be eligible for this ballot, the U.S.citizen must:

- Be located outside the United States (including APO/FPO addresses);

- Have applied for a regular ballot early enough so that the request is received by the appropriate local election official at least 30 days before the election; and
- Not have received the requested regular absentee ballot from the state.

The FWAB is used to vote for federal offices, President/Vice President, U.S. senator, U.S. representative, delegate or resident commissioner to the Congress) in general elections. Some states now allow military and overseas citizens to use the FWAB in elections other than general elections or for offices other than federal offices. The citizen should consult Chapter 3 of the 2004-05 Voting Assistance Guide for specific state or territorial requirements. The citizen may elec-

tronically fill in the form before it is printed, or print it and manually fill in the form. In either case, the citizen's manual signature and date are required. Specific instructions to be followed when submitting the OFWAB may be found at <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/onlinefwab.html>. If the form is mailed within the APO/FPO or U.S. postal system, a postage paid indicia may be printed onto your mailing envelope from the FVAP web site at <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/returnenvelope.html>. Citizens who receive their state ballot after submitting either version of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot should vote and submit their state ballot any time up to and including election day. Citizens should note on the state ballot envelope that a

FWAB was submitted. The FVAP can be contacted through the DoD Voting Information Center (VIC) Citizens may reach the VIC toll-free from 64 countries using the toll-free numbers listed on the FVAP website, <http://www.fvap.gov>. The VIC provides recorded messages from candidates, as well as other information concerning elections, 24 hours a day. Questions about this program may also be referred to the director, Federal Voting Assistance Program, Department of Defense, 1155 Defense Pentagon. Additionally, the FVAP can be reached via e-mail at [vote@fvap.ncr.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.ncr.gov). <http://www.defenselink.mil/releases/2004/nr20041021-1429.html>.

## Excused absence for voting policy clarified

CPAC

Each year the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC) and military commanders receive a number of questions about excused absence for the purpose of voting in a presidential election, held this year on Nov. 2. For civilian employees, the Federal Government has a longstanding policy of granting employees limited time off from work (i.e., excused absence) to vote in federal, state, county, or municipal elections or in referendums on civic matters in their community. Agencies have discretionary authority to grant excused absence to the extent that such time off does not seriously interfere with agency operations. Typically, polling places throughout the United States are open for extended periods of time. Therefore,

excused absences should rarely be needed. The CPAC does, however, offer the following guidelines when considering excused absences for voting in unusual situations:

- Generally, where the polls are not open at least three hours either before or after an employee's regular work hours, supervisors may grant a limited amount of excused absence that will permit the employee to report for work three hours after the polls open or leave from work three hours before the polls close, whichever requires the lesser amount of time off. An employee's "regular work hours" should be determined by reference to the time of day the employee normally arrives at and departs from work. For example, if polls are open 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., an employee with duty hours of 9 a.m. to

5:30 p.m. may report to work at 9:30 a.m. The 30 minutes of excused absence would permit the employee to report to work 3 hours after the polls open.

- If an employee's voting location is beyond normal commuting distance and vote by absentee ballot is not permitted, the employing agency may grant excused absence (not to exceed 1 day) to allow the employee to make the trip to the voting location to cast a ballot.

If more than one day is needed, the employee may request annual leave or leave without pay for the additional period of absence. As always, an excused absence is at the manager's discretion. Employees should discuss their specific situation with their supervisor, in advance, to ensure a clear understanding of leave author-

ization. In cases where employees are covered by a negotiated agreement with a labor organization, the provisions of that agreement will be followed. For questions concerning excused absence for voting, contact your servicing Civilian Personnel Advisory Center Specialist. Military personnel should follow guidance in accordance with AR 600-8-10 (Leaves and Passes), paragraphs 5-29 (B-3), 5-37 (F). Unit Commanders may grant a special pass for military personnel to exercise voting responsibilities of their citizenship. For assistance filling out absentee ballots, contact Unit Voting Assistance Officers or Maj. Anissa McNeill, Installation Voting Assistance Officer, 410-278-3000.

## Spam and spoofing

DOIM

The APG Garrison's Directorate of Information Management is exploring options to further reduce the amount of unsolicited mail coming to APG, and changes should be implemented in the near future. Unsolicited email, known as "spam," shows up in many different forms. Some of it is just "junk" mail that is serving a legitimate mass-mailing function, like regular junk mail. Other unsolicited email messages are deliberate attempts to get the recipient to perform some kind of action, whether it is a request to help someone transfer a lot of money out of their country or a get-rich-quick scheme. Some email messages appear to be legitimate, coming from a legitimate source, and asking you to perform what looks like a legitimate action. In many ways, this is the most dangerous kind of spam. It appears to be from legitimate domains, such as [Administrator@army.mil](mailto:Administrator@army.mil) or [support@microsoft.com](mailto:support@microsoft.com) or Citibank, US Bank or SmithBarney and requires you to perform some kind of action as part of an audit or to maintain your email account.

There is also a new variant where the email message looks like you are receiving mail addressed to the wrong person, such as [Mary.Jones@anywhere.com](mailto:Mary.Jones@anywhere.com) instead of [Mary.Smith@anywhere.com](mailto:Mary.Smith@anywhere.com). In all these situations, the proper response is to delete the message without opening it. Users sometimes see messages where the attachments have been removed. This is because APG workstations and email servers have virus protection, which blocks specific attachments. Also, because of some of the "spoofing" (using someone else's email address to make the message look legitimate) that is going on, users may receive a message that they sent a virus to someone they do not know. Again, the proper response is to delete the message. There are a number of different techniques hackers use to create the spoofed email address. The most common is to "harvest" addresses from legitimate email messages sent over the Internet. If APG users receive an alert from the Symantec Antivirus on their workstation, or have any questions or concerns about a possible virus, contact the DOIM Virus Alert team at 410-278-2106.

## Caesar

*From front page*

collaborations intended to bridge gaps. "If it's not saying anything to the people, I don't want it," Caesar said. Featured collaborators include Grammy Award winners Patti Labelle & Gladys Knight, R&B songstress Faith Evans, and Gospel greats Oleta Adams, Kirk Franklin and others. **Pamela Rankins** A native of Louisville, Ky., Pamela Rankins is affectionately referred to as the "Songbird of Derby City." She made her recording debut with the album, "A Thank You In Advance." Rankins has opened for Michael Bolton, Albertina Walker, Dorothy Norwood, Larnelle Harris and Dr. Bobby Jones. The singer-songwriter also has appeared in Canada, Switzerland and the Bahamas.





# Morale, Welfare & Recreation

## Activities

### New operating hours

The MWR Registration, Tickets and Leisure Travel Center's new operating hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month.

If this happens to fall on a training holiday, then the Thursday prior the office will be open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

### BOSS sponsors Halloween bowling party

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers is sponsoring a Halloween Party at the APG Bowling Center 9 to 11 p.m., Oct. 29. The cost is \$10 per person.

Dress up and join the fun for a night of bowling, music and costume and door prizes.

Open to permanent party, APG employees and friends.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact a BOSS Representative or the AA Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-2621/3404.

### MWR looks out for singles through BOSS

The BOSS "Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers" Program meets on the last Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m., building 305, conference room.

The program is Department of the Army directed, installation managed and service member operated to support the overall quality of life, recreation and leisure and community service for single and unaccompanied service members and single parents.

For more information, call Joyce Founds, Morale Welfare and Recreation advisor, at 410-278-2621.

### Sign up for Youth Services Sports

#### Karate classes

The fall session for karate classes for ages 7 through 18 will be held Monday and Wednesday at the Aberdeen Youth Center, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., through Dec. 22. The class must have a minimum of 10 youths.

Karate classes cost \$60 per session. Youths must be a current Youth Center member.

Classes begin once the minimum number have signed up.

For more information or for registration, call Christina Keithley at 410-278-7571, or e-mail Christina.Keithley@usag.apg.army.mil.

#### 2004-05 Cheerleading Program

In the Aberdeen Area, registration for cheerleading for ages 6 through 15 will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., through Nov. 8, by appointment.

To make an appointment,

call Central Registration at 410-278-7571.

In the Edgewood Area, registration for cheerleading will be held every Wednesday, or call Chris Fielder at 410-436-3862.

Practice will begin Dec. 1 or 2; the program will end mid-March 2005. Games are held every Saturday in January and February. Cost of registration is \$40 per child, with 10 percent off every additional child.

For more information, call Bill Kegley at 410-306-2297.

#### 2004-05 Basketball

Registration for basketball will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., through Nov. 8, by appointment only, at the Central Registration Office, building 2752 and the Edgewood and Aberdeen Area Youth Centers.

Cost of registration for the basketball league is \$40 per child, \$76 for two children and \$112 for three children. Cost of registration for the basket-

### Scottish Highland Dance Classes

Youth Services will offer Scottish Highland dance classes for children ages five to 18 years of age. Children of military and civilian employees of APG are eligible to register.

The date for determining age eligibility is Nov. 1 of the current year or as determined on a case-by-case basis.

Scottish Highland dance classes cost \$65 per student per class (one hour instruction once per week for 18 weeks/recital). A registration/membership fee is required for all students six years of age and up. Adults may sign up and pay a fee to take the class with their son/daughter. A minimum number of six students are needed to hold a class.

Classes are scheduled for 3 to 4 p.m., every Saturday, beginning Nov. 6, at the

Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522, Ballet Room.

Registration will be held through Nov. 5.

For an appointment to register, call Christina Keithly at 410-278-7571 or Pat Palazzi at 410-278-7479, of the CYS Outreach Services-Central Registration Office, building 2752, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A late registration fee will be charged for any registration after the cut-off date.

A brief parent orientation session will be held on November 6 at the first class meeting. For more information, please call Ivan Mehosky at 410-278-2857 or e-mail Ivan.Mehosky@apg.army.mil.

### Amateur boxing tournament

APG MWR and Integrity School of Boxing with Lochraven will present the United States Amateur Boxing

by Dec. 1.

Registrations taken after Nov. 8 will be put on a waiting list. Bring a completed physical examination and proof of age to registration.

A CYS sports registration form, NYSCA parents code of ethics and CYS code of conduct forms must be completed.

The CYS sports program is in need of volunteer coaches for all age groups.

#### Learn how to play Chess

Youth Services offers free Chess classes for students in the third grade and up, at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522 and at the Edgewood Area Youth Center, building E-1902. Maximum class size is 14.

#### Aberdeen Area

Session I will be held each Monday, from Oct. 25 through Dec. 13. Classes for sixth grade and up will be held 3:45 to 4:30 p.m.; classes for third through fifth grade will be

Tournament on Nov. 6, at Hoyle Gymnasium, building E-4210. Doors open at 5 p.m., boxing starts at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 for front row ring side, \$15 for floor seating and \$10 for bleacher seating. Local and national amateur boxers will be featured.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center, building E-4210, 410-436-3375/7134 or see [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).

### Dart shootout

MWR will hold a Dart Shootout on Nov. 5, 7 to 11 p.m. at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. Entry fee for the tournament costs \$10. The tournament will consist of four throws (three darts each throw). The highest point total on any of the four throws will

count as the score for the competition. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three participants based on the number of entries. Register by Nov. 3 at MWR Registration, building 3326, 410-278-4907/4011.

### "Paint Your Own"

Edgewood Area Arts and Crafts now has "Paint Your Own Ceramic Studio."

The ceramic studio is open to all APG civilians, active duty military, contractors and reservists and their dependents. No previous artist skills are required. There is a wide assortment of gift and holiday items to choose from.

Hours of operation are 1 to 9 p.m., Thursdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays. Arts and Crafts is located in building E-4440, next to the Military Police Station.

For more information, call 410-436-2153.

Maryland "Youth Of The Year" competition.

Last year's winners were Anastasia Phillips of the Aberdeen Area Youth Center and Wyndell Williams of the Edgewood Area.

The cut-off date for submitting nomination forms is Dec. 17. Nomination forms and "Youth Of The Year" packets can be picked up at the AA Youth Center, building 2522, or the EA Youth Center, building E-1902, or, contact Ivan Mehosky, School Liaison/Youth Education Services, building 2752, room 200.

For help in getting started or for more information, call Angie Gittings or Lucinda McDowell, AA Youth Services teen program at 410-278-4995; Catherine Hanlon or Jerome Wing, EA Youth Services teen program at 410-436-2862; or Mehosky, APG "Youth Of The Year" program coordinator, at 410-278-2857.

## APG BOWLING CENTER NEWS

### Upcoming Events

#### November

**Nov. 7:** Active Duty Special - \$1 per game, \$.75 shoe rental.

**Nov. 8 through 12:** Red Pin Special Week - Throw a strike on the red head pin and draw a prize out of the "prize bowl." Receive discounts in all areas of the bowling center.

**Nov. 13:** Cosmic Rent-A-Lane - \$15 per lane per hour, shoes included.

**Nov. 15 through 19:** Head Pin Hattie Special - \$2 per entry (multiple entries allowed). Throw one ball per frame but must hit head pin to score. Whatever is knocked down is the score for that frame. If the head pin remains standing, the score will be zero. One out of every 10 will win a turkey for Thanksgiving.

**Nov. 28:** Rent-A-Lane Special - \$9 per lane per hour; active duty military receive an additional \$1 off

(Limited to groups of four or more).

#### December

**Dec. 1 through 31:** Save-A-Card Special - Buy a 20 game card for only \$30 (valid only Monday thru Friday).

**Dec. 6 through 10:** Red Pin Special Week - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday and Tuesday; and 5 p.m. until closing, Wednesday thru Friday. Throw a strike on a red head pin and receive a free game of bowling.

**Dec. 13 through 17:** Christmas Special - Win a ham for Christmas. \$2 per entry (multiple entries allowed). Throw 10 frames, one ball per frame and the head pin must be hit to score.

**Dec. 31:** New Year's Eve Special - 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sign-up by Dec. 27, \$10 per person. Bowl all night, plus finger food and party favors will be provided.

#### January

**Jan. 8:** Active Duty Rent-A-Lane - 1 to 6 p.m., \$8 per lane per hour, shoes included). Limited to groups of four or more).

**Jan. 12 through 14:** Red Pin Special - All day/night. Throw a strike on the red head pin to receive a free game of bowling.

**Jan. 19 and 20:** From 1 to 6 p.m., all bowling costs \$.75 per game.

**Jan. 28:** Cosmic Special - 9 p.m. until closing. All games cost \$1.50 and \$.75 shoe rental.

#### February

**Feb. 7 through 11:** Red Pin Special Week - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Monday and Tuesday) and 5 p.m. until closing, Wednesday thru Friday. Throw a strike on the red head pin and draw a prize out of the "prize bowl." Receive discounts in all areas of the bowling center.

**Feb. 13:** Valentine Scotch Doubles Tournament - 3 p.m. start time, \$8 per person.

Cash prizes.

**Feb. 20:** Rent-A-Lane Special - \$9 per lane per hour; active duty military receive an additional \$1 off. Limited to groups of four or more).

#### March

March 6 through 10: Red Pin Special Week - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday and Tuesday; and 5 p.m. until closing, Wednesday thru Friday). Throw a strike on a red head pin and receive a free game of bowling.

**March 17:** St. Patrick's Day Special - Wear green and receive half off each game bowled.

**March 25:** Cosmic Soldier Special - 8 p.m. until closing, All games cost \$1.25 or \$10 per hour (shoes included).

For more information contact the Bowling Center (bldg. 2342) at 410-278-4041 or visit [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).

## LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. The Edgewood Area Library is open 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday. For more information, call 410-278-3417.

If you're looking for a few scares to help you celebrate Halloween, you can find some in the DVD collection of the APG MWR Libraries:

#### The War of the Worlds

When this story was first broadcast on the radio (that version is available on CD) on the eve of Halloween in 1938, many listeners actually believed that the Martians had landed in New Jersey.

Other film titles are:

#### Halloween

#### Carrie

#### Sleepy Hollow

#### The Night of the Living Dead

#### Poltergeist

#### Alien, Alien 3, and Alien Resurrection

The library's Web site, [www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html](http://www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html), provides access to the library's online catalog and also has a complete annotated listing of the library's new material, as well as a list of available films on DVD.



## Washington Wizards basketball tickets available

The Washington Wizards will play against the Denver Nuggets, 7 p.m., Dec. 8, at the MCI Center, Washington, D.C. Upper level tickets cost \$12.

The Washington Wizards will play against the Minnesota Timberwolves, 7 p.m., Jan. 8, 2005, at the MCI Center, Washington, D.C. Upper level tickets cost \$30.00

Register by Nov. 1 at MWR Registration, building 3326, or call 410-278-4907/4011, or e-mail [mwr\\_registration@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:mwr_registration@usag.apg.army.mil)).

### CWF sponsors trip to Three Little Bakers

The Civilian Welfare Fund will sponsor a trip to the Three Little Bakers Dinner Theater, on Dec. 10. The bus will depart 4:30 p.m. from the Aberdeen Area. Cost is \$59 per person, and includes charter bus transportation, dinner, and show, "Holiday Hip Parade USA."

For more information or to make reservations, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

## SPORTS UPDATE

The following results for intramural flag football and soccer were received for the week ending Oct. 22. For inquiries concerning statistics, contact Donna Coyne, intramural sports coordinator, at 410-278-3929.

#### All Divisions

##### Results:

##### Oct. 18

Company B 16th, 14; Company A 16th, 12

USAF forfeited to Company C 16th

HHC 16th, 33; HST, 6

HHC 61st, 25; NCOA, 6

Company C 143rd, 25; HHC 143rd, 12

Company B 143rd and Company A

143rd,

double forfeit

##### Oct. 20

KUSAHC, 25; HHC 16th, 0

Company E 16th, 30; HST, 28

Company B 143rd, 13; MRICD, 6

HHC 143rd, 12; TEU, 8

USAF forfeited to Company B 16th

Company A 16th forfeited to USMC

#### Standings

##### American Division

Company E 16th

HHC 16th

KUSAHC

HHC 61st

HST

NCOA

##### National Division

Company B 16th

USMC

Company C 16th

Company A 16th

USAF

dropped

dropped

#### Edgewood Division

HHC 143rd

5-3

Company C 143rd

4-1

TEU

4-2

Company B 143rd

4-5

MRICD

2-6

Company A 143rd

2-6

The post-season intramural soccer tournament began Oct. 21. Company B 16th defeated Company C 143rd, 5-1, and Company C 16th defeated Company B 143rd, 3-1.

The post championship game will be played Nov. 2, 7 p.m. on Shine Sports Field.

The intramural Sports Council meeting will be held Nov. 4, 10 a.m. at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326.





Story and photos by  
**Meghan Bowen**  
APG News

Gospel singers, heavy metal rockers, country ballads, American Bandstand and a disco-clad drill sergeant had the crowd jumping up and dancing at the 2004 U.S. Army Soldier Show held in the Aberdeen Area Post Theater Oct. 24 and 25.

"I think you all would agree

that this was one of the best variety of voices and performer's we've had at the Soldier Show here on Aberdeen Proving Ground," said Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, while presenting the cast a plaque of appreciation.

The program took modern and classic hits and produced a musical medley that covered songs from almost every genre, including country, Latin, gospel, rhythm and blues, rap, and Motown, as well as alternative and pop rock.

The theme for the show was "The Heart of a Soldier" which was displayed in a variety of musical skits and dance.

In one scene, Soldiers performed a percussion set improvising with paddles on steel footlockers and used a water cooler bottle as a drum. Then, Sgt. 1st Class David Thomp-

son, Jr., drill sergeant, broke up the misbehavers.

"I'm tired of being mean all the time," Thompson said.

"Hooah," said Soldiers in the crowd.

Then, Thompson broke into a version of the Temptations' song "My Girl."

The show was laced with skits, which recreated various relationship situations.

In one skit, the program created a scene between a couple, one Soldier and his wife were sitting across the stage holding laptops. The screen behind them displayed their Instant Messages to each other, illustrating how some families use the Internet to stay in touch.

While the couple sang, "I am the rock, a foundation of love...I keep this family going, I live without knowing" to each other.

In another skit, performers sang "This One's for the Girls" by Martina Mc Bride while guys dressed in denim tried to get the attention of three ladies in sundresses.

Religious themed music took over with an operatic rendition of the "Ave Maria" hymn, which progressed into the modern rock song "My Immortal," by Evanescence.

Afterwards, a doo-wop quartet performed the Boyz II Men version of "Yesterday."

Then the stage came alive with dancers recreating the "American Bandstand" show.

A Prince impersonator got huge applause from the crowd, as he came on stage in the

trademark purple velvet suit, sang the song "Kiss" while strumming a few chords on his electric guitar.

Thompson performed again in a silver sequin shirt for a disco number, which had Soldiers in the audience in disbelief.

After the disco set, classic and alternative rockers took the stage as performers jammed to Ozzy Osbourne's "Crazy Train", Bon Jovi's "Living on a Prayer", and the Kiss song "I Want to Rock and Roll All Night."

Pfc. Clarence Reeves III, of Fort Sill, Okla., got huge applause for portraying Outkast's Andre 3000.

Sgt. Kevin Cherry, Fort

Lee, Va., also received applause for his rendition of Outkast's version of "I Like the Way You Move."

Cherry, who sings and plays saxophone, said he was inspired by his parent's musical influences.

"I came from a musical family and started out in a church choir. My father played the sax and mom sang and was a tap dancer."

Another performer Spc. Danika Florence, Fort Stewart, Ga., was influenced by her father an Army recruiter, who encouraged her to audition for the Soldier Show.

"We practiced fourteen hours a day, for six weeks. You learn really fast how to keep it

all together," Florence commented on preparing for the show.

The cast and crew of the 2004 Soldier Show has approximately 15 shows left of the 152 Army post performances they've played at around the world over their six-month tour. They ended their last performance to a shower of applause from the APG community.

"I was very impressed," said Pvt. Paul Harmon, of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion.

"The 'My Girl' song was my favorite part. I never thought a drill sergeant would do that," said Pvt. Cary Baker, Company B 143rd Ordnance Battalion.



Sgt. Abimeal Leon, back left, of Killeen Armory, Fort Hood, Texas, sings a Latin number while cast members dance to the music.



One performer impersonates Bon Jovi with the song "Living on a Prayer."



Spc. Jonathan Walker, Fort Bragg, N.C., right, plays guitar while Pfc. Daren Taylor of Fort Belvoir, Va., sings.



Spc. Emily Plasterer, left, of the Indiana National Guard and Spc. Corey McAleesejergins of Fort Bragg, N.C. perform a duet during the 2004 U.S. Army Soldier Show



The cast of the 2004 Soldier Show ends the performance with a rendition of the Army song.



Pfc. Clarence Reeves III, center, of Fort Sill, Okla., sings Outkast's "Hey Ya" song while Spc. Danika Florence, second left, of Fort Stewart, Ga., dances to the music along with the other Soldier show cast.



# Health

## Study finds health risks low from inhaling depleted uranium

American Forces Press Service

The Capstone Study found that even soldiers in armored vehicles hit by depleted-uranium munitions would still not suffer health risks from inhaling the particles. Of course, officials said, soldiers would certainly have other problems if their tank or armored personnel carrier was hit by a depleted- uranium round.

The U.S. military uses depleted uranium as armor and in munitions. The five-year, \$6 million study, analyzed for the Army and the Department of Defense Deployment Health Support Directorate by Batelle Memorial Institute, found that even in extreme cases exposure to "aerosolized" depleted uranium did not pose a health risk.

The study looked at the health risks faced by servicemembers who had been in an armored vehicle that was breached by a depleted-uranium round. It also looked at the

exposures mechanics or other maintenance personnel would get from working in such a vehicle. "What we found in this study is the highest-exposed individuals are those that are in, on or near vehicles when they were struck," said Army Lt. Col. Mark Melanson.

"What we found is the radiation doses for people in that situation are below peacetime safety standards," he continued. "We also found that the chemical risks of breathing in uranium dust is so low that it won't cause any long-term health risks."

Melanson, who holds a doctorate in radiation health sciences, is the program manager of the Health Physics Program at the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

DoD has been assessing the safety of depleted uranium for more than 30 years. The radia-

tion risk from the rounds and armor is negligible. Melanson pointed out that uranium is a common element. Depleted uranium has most of the U-235 isotope - the type used to make atomic bombs - taken out of it, leaving the more stable U-238.

But uranium is a heavy metal and, like lead or mercury, can pose problems if enough is ingested.

Specialists at APG fired depleted-uranium rounds at the turrets of M-1 tanks and at Bradley fighting vehicles. They measured the concentration of DU inside the turrets and passenger compartments and compared those rates with allowable peacetime standards.

The levels were below the standards set for peacetime civilian workers.

"If it's safe for workers in the states to receive these exposures during peacetime, it's definitely safe for our troops to receive them in combat when there are other more

dangerous risks out there on the battlefield," Melanson said.

The study is further proof that DU poses little danger. Since 1993, the Department of Veterans Affairs has been assessing the health of American soldiers wounded in 1991's Operation Desert Storm by depleted-uranium rounds.

These individuals have particles of depleted uranium remaining inside them.

"There are no health affects attributable to DU," Melanson said. "There are health problems from their wounding, but nothing from depleted uranium."

Related Sites:  
DoD Deployment Health

Support Directorate  
<http://www.deploymentlink.osd.mil/>.

Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine  
<http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/>.

Health Physics Program  
<http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/hp/>

## Health impacts productivity

**Carlla Jones, Marcie Birk, Kate Neufeld**  
CHPPM

The impact of poor health on workplace productivity is often measured only in terms of days absent from work or missed training time. Improving health is seen as valuable because good health increases the amount of time a Soldier is able to be on duty.

However, this is only one side of the issue. The other point to consider is: how does health impact productivity while on duty?

Absenteeism is a well-recognized consequence of less-than-optimal health. However, decreased health also causes "presenteeism." Presenteeism is being on duty but not performing at full capacity. Presenteeism is of special concern to the military because military missions are dependent upon optimal levels of performance while on duty.

Military duties require Soldiers to operate at peak levels of physical and mental capacity, and without injury. This level of performance must especially be sustained during times of deployment. World events have accelerated the rate of deployments for active duty, Reserve, and National Guard personnel.

While force readiness is always critical, the current high level of military operations makes readiness more important now than ever. Optimal force readiness relies upon healthy human resources.

There are many health factors that can influence force readiness including tobacco use, high levels of stress, and work-related injuries that reduce the effectiveness of Soldiers while on duty. These risk factors, however, take on additional significance when

considered in light of the unique demands of military missions. For example, tobacco use impairs night vision and coordination. Also, the effects of poorly managed stress such as insomnia, fatigue, and anxiety have obvious consequences for safety. Ultimately, all these factors affect mission accomplishment.

A new approach to examining the connection between health and on-duty performance is called Health and Productivity Management. HPM integrates wellness and prevention; chronic-disease management; occupational health and safety; disability management; and organizational health. This integrative approach addresses presenteeism by considering healthy Soldiers as a force asset.

The goal of HPM is to increase performance while on duty by reducing health concerns, to decrease unnecessary time away from duty overall, and minimize total health-related costs, including medical expenses. HPM can be used to identify and deliver services that enhance Soldier's performance. Health is a primary factor in efficient and effective performance. A healthy force is a ready force.

In order for the U.S. military to maintain force readiness, healthy service members and civilians must continue to be considered a force asset for the 21st century. HPM can be adapted for use in a military environment to maximize force readiness and on-duty productivity. HPM is a valuable link between force readiness, force health, and mission accomplishment.

For more information on Health and Productivity Management, go to <http://www.ihpm.org/>

## Changing essential info in DEERS

Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii

People registered in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System, more commonly known as DEERS, are responsible for changing essential information when moving.

DEERS is a computerized database of military sponsors, families and others worldwide who are entitled under the law to TRICARE benefits. DEERS registration is required for TRICARE eligibility.

Enrollees who live part of the year in one location and move to another location the

rest of the year must change addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses every time they move. Families who decide to transfer their TRICARE benefit should also change their DEERS information.

For example, a family that plans to return home for six months while the spouse is deployed will need routine health care at the "home" location and needs to transfer TRICARE and change DEERS information.

The easiest way to update the DEERS information is to go to <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/>, and click on "DEERS" to the bottom right

of the web page. It will take user directly to the Address Change Option in DEERS.

Enrollment forms to transfer TRICARE benefits are also located on the Web site above.

Or enrollees may go to <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/>, click on "DoD Community," then "Personnel Services," then "DEERS Address Update System," and "Personal Information," and fill in the new information.

Enrollees may also call the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office at 1-800-538-9552, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Eastern Time, Wednesdays through Fridays.





Wooden carvings, wool blankets were just some of the display items from Ecuador provided by Marcelo Armendariz, a retired sergeant first class and contracted chemical equipment instructor for the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance Schools..

## Heritage

*From front page*

and a member of the Hispanic Employment Program Committee. “It’s nice to know that they are honor students.”

Thea Blunt-Henderson, a U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center engineer said that she enjoyed the food samplings.

“I learned about new foods to serve at parties,” she said.

“As usual, this event was a learning experience that serves to inform people,” added Staff

Sgt. Careen Brooks, a drill sergeant with Company C, 143rd Ordnance Battalion and the unit’s equal opportunity representative.

Linda Patrick thanked the Hispanic Employment Program Committee, notably Serino, Baldauf, Victor Duarte, Nellie DuPrey and J. Brian Hall, as well as the program participants, Morale, Welfare and Recreation and the Directorate of Information Management audio visual and sound personnel.



Clay dolls from Venezuela adorn a Hispanic display by Carmen Androver, a physical science technologist from CHPPM.



The Mexico display by Daisy Villalobos, the wife of CHPPM Sgt. Raul Villalobos, features a sombrero and photographs of her hometown, Aguascalientes.

# APG Toastmasters Make Clean Sweep

*Col. Jesse L. Barber*

The Greater Baltimore Area Toastmasters held its annual fall competition Oct. 16.

When the dust settled, the clubs from the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas of Aberdeen Proving Ground, emerged victorious.

Jim Kidd, President of the Susquehanna Toastmasters noted, “This was a contest I’m glad I did not have to judge. These guys were good.”

The annual fall speech contest focuses upon humor and evaluations. The competition ends with the District Contest on Nov. 6, at the Christiana Hilton in Newark, Del.

Toastmaster Len Kolodny wowed and charmed the audience with his speech, “Why I joined Toastmasters.”

According to Kolodny, he has never won a contest in his life and he was amazed he made it this far. There was laughter throughout Kolodny’s speech.

Georgia Muhammad of the Magic Cube Toastmasters club remarked that she was once timid and shy, but not any more. Toastmasters has given her the confidence to speak to any group.

Members say Toastmasters is not just about speaking, it’s also about effective listening. Dawn Neubeck of the

HARCO club of Edgewood proved she’s developed superior listening skills as an accomplished Toastmaster.

Neubeck delivered a flawless evaluation of a eulogy delivered by Division C Governor Oscar Zalamia about a fallen Toastmaster, Jessica Soto Perez, who was killed this past summer in a tragic shooting at the University of Maryland.

Neubeck amazed the audience by focusing on the things that Zalamia did well, including what she saw that could make his speech more powerful.

Gina Wilson, Vice President for Education of

HARCO, remarked, “Dawn is so good she should be teaching seminars to all of us on effective evaluations.”

The performances by the contestants at both contests demonstrated the intense preparation that the contestants and their clubs went through to polish their skills.

Donna Moltrup, vice president of education for the APG Gunpowder Club said she was proud of Kolodny’s performance. According to Moltrup, “Len’s performance exemplifies what you can do when you practice and practice. We all are so proud of him.”

Toastmasters are highly motivated and inspirational speakers with a diverse background. Members of the Susquehanna and Gunpowder Toastmaster clubs include engineers, nurses, soldiers, retirees, administrative assistants, financial managers, human resource specialists, training instructors, and college students. Members of the Toastmasters Club learn by speaking to fellow club members within a supportive environment. A typical club is made up of 20 to 30 people who meet regularly for about an hour twice a month.

At each meeting, everyone has an opportunity to practice speaking and listening. Presentations vary from one to two-minute impromptu speeches, and up to five or seven-minute talks based on projects from the Toastmasters International Communication and Leadership Program manuals. Every speaker receives immediate feedback about his or her strengths, as well as suggestions for improvement.

According to Doug Strand, Susquehanna Toastmasters Club, many soldiers don’t realize that presentation skills are key to being selected for that next leadership role. Commanders look for individuals who are articulate and Toastmasters can help. Infact, the Army War College uses the Toastmaster script in the development of its executive public speaking course.

Both APG clubs include winners of the Army War College’s annual Executive Public speaking contest. They help coach members with techniques that will help them improve their skills to better their careers.

Anyone may visit the Susquehanna or the Gunpowder Toastmasters Club.

The Gunpowder Toastmasters Club #2562 meets 11:40 a.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month in the Gunpowder Community Club in the Edgewood Area.

The Susquehanna Toastmasters Club #3898 meets 11:45 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month in the Regimental Room at Top of the Bay.